

REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is requested in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and avoid paying the multiple dependent claims fee and to place the application in better form for examination.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

3. (amended) A nicotine delivery system according to claim 1 [or claim 2], in which the microcapsules comprise yeast cells.

5. (amended) A nicotine delivery system according to claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 4], presented in a solid carrier from the surface of which microcapsules are gradually released for controlled delivery.

9. (amended) A system according to claim 7 [or claim 8], having such a size, solubility and charge of nicotine that it delivers, in use over a time period between 4 and 20 minutes, an amount of nicotine equivalent to that delivered by a cigarette.

12. (amended) A system according to claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 11], comprising a flavouring substance.

14. (amended) A system according to claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 13], comprising a vitamin supplement.

16. (amended) A system according to claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 4], comprised in a patch.

Abstract

There is disclosed a delivery system for nicotine comprising nicotine encapsulated in a microcapsule system which releases the encapsulated nicotine on contact of the microcapsules with a nicotine solvent.

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